

L American Continental Congress

FEW REMARKS

UPON SOME OF THE
Votes and Resolutions

*-1061. L:29.
14.*

OF THE
Continental Congress,

Held at Philadelphia in September,

AND THE
Provincial Congress,

Held at Cambridge in November 1774.

By a FRIEND to Peace and good Order.

O! my People they which lead thee, cause thee to err, and
destroy the Way of thy Paths. *Prophet Isaiah.*

And the People shall be oppressed every one by his Neighbour:
The Child shall behave himself proudly, against the Ancient,
and the base against the honourable. *Isa.*

But lo! I will deliver the Men every one into his Neighbours
hand, and into the hand of his King. *Prophet Zechar.*

Wherefore do I see every man with his hands on his Loins as a
Woman in Travail, and all Faces are turned into paleness,
Prophet Jer.

Printed for the Purchasers in 1775.

NEW REMARKS

ON THE

Voices and Resolutions

OF THE

Continental Congress

AND THE

AND THE



UPPER AND LOWER

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

very

I

Amer
and d
great
descri

W

tution
to de
hope
that
with

we o
respe
conf
repe

us a
or th
All
give
the
the
cong

per
neig
fore
unl
riot

ty
par

Remarks, &c.

IT is a fact not controverted by any, that the opposition, made by this town and province to a *British act of parliament*, laying a duty upon the importation of tea in any of the *American colonies*, hath involved us in great misery and distress; and that we are threatened with much greater calamities, the horrors of which are beyond description.

Whether the *parliament* have or have not a constitutional power to impose this duty, I shall not pretend to determine; but this I may venture to say, and I hope without giving offence; that the *opposition* that hath been generally made to it, is inconsistent with our profession of *Christianity*, with the *loyalty* we owe to our SOVEREIGN, and the reverence and respect that is due to the *British parliament*; and consequently, instead of being a means to obtain a repeal of the ACTS, will in all probability bring on us a heavier condemnation than that of the *port-bill*, or the ACT for the alteration of our *constitution*. All that is proposed by the following pages is to give an impartial representation of the destruction of the *tea* in *Boston*, and to make a few remarks upon the proceedings of the continental and provincial *congresses*.

In the month of December 1773, a number of persons in disguise collected from Boston and the neighbouring towns, not having the fear of God before their eyes, or the good of their country at heart unlawfully assembled themselves together, and in a riotous, tumultuous manner destroyed a great quantity of tea, belonging to the *honorable East-India company*— An action of such a gross immoral nature

as cannot be justified upon the principles of equity or policy : An *action* which laid the foundation for the miseries and calamities we are now groaning under : An *action* of such a malignant atrocious nature, as must expose the wicked perpetrators of it, without sincere repentance, to the vengeance of that BEING, who is a GOD of order and not of confusion, and who will punish all THIEVES as well as liars in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone.

This *diabolical action* it is true, was disclaimed by the sober thinking part of the *town*, but no steps were taken either by the *town* or *government*, to show their dislike of it ; on the contrary, many amongst us, who would be thought to be *religious*, in which class were some of the *clergy*, endeavoured to palliate the crime, as they said it prevented a worse evil, not duly considering that *christianity* forbids our doing *moral evil* though ever so much good should come from it.

The *parliament of Great-Britain*, highly incensed against the *town*, for such an *outrageous action*, thought proper to punish us by passing an *act* called the *port bill*. By which *act* it must be acknowledged that the innocent suffer as much, if not more than the guilty, which is often the case in *national punishments*, and cannot well be avoided. However, as severe as this *act* may be accounted by some, the severity of it would have been in a great measure lessened, if the *town* had done their duty upon the news we had of the bill's having the *royal sanction*, by paying the money to the order of the *East-India company* ; and had they complied with the other parts of the *act*, which *justice* and good *policy* required them to do, the *port* would not have

have been shut up above four months, the damages then would have been inconsiderable to what we now suffer by our refusing to comply with the requisitions of *said act*; the charitable donations from the *other governments*, being very short of a compensation for what we suffer by the loss of our *trade*.—But to do justice to the sober thinking part of the *town*, upon the certain news of the port bill's being carried into an *act*, they thought it to be our interest and duty immediately to pay for the *tea*; accordingly a *town* meeting was called to consult what was proper to be done upon this alarming occasion: And it seemed to be the sense of most who were then present, that out of *policy* at least, we ought to comply with the requisitions of the *act*, but many difficulties were started as to the manner of doing it; some proposed the voting of the money directly; this was objected to, as being illegal, the *town* not having any authority by *law* to raise monies for that purpose without the special aid of the *general court*, but as they were to set in a few weeks, it was motioned that a petition should be preferred to them to enable the *town* to borrow the money upon the credit of a future tax; others thought that the *province* ought to pay the money, or at least to let them have the loan of it for a number of years without interest, and that a *committee* should be raised to apply to them for that purpose: But others, whose *importance* and *political salvation* depend upon the *province* being kept in a continual flame, and observing that the general sense of the *town* was in favour of paying for the *tea*, though they did not chuse openly to oppose such a *righteous measure*, yet artfully threw difficulties in the way of the different methods that were proposed: They did

did not pretend to deny the justice and equity of paying for it, but observed that this *act* might affect all the *colonies*; and that as in all probability there would soon be a *continental congress*; it would be our wisdom to do nothing until we had the united sense of the *colonies*; and that they did not doubt they would recommend the payment for the tea; and each *colony* would willingly advance their proportion of it; whereas, if we should immediately order the payment they may possibly resent it, and construe it as our submitting to the *act* of *parliament* imposing the duty upon that article, and so the *union* and *harmony* which at present subsists between the *colonies* would be in great danger of being destroyed.—In the mean time it was proposed that we should represent to the several *colonies* our distressed condition, praying them for relief for our suffering brethren, who were out of employ by reason of the *port bill*. These reasons though altogether destitute of sincerity, seemed to be very plausible, and they accordingly had their effect: And the *town* did nothing further concerning it.

The *general court* met upon the last wednesday in May, and were adjourned to Salem the tuesday following, but as no application was made to them, they took no *order* relative to it: And as nothing was done by the *general court*, nor likely to be done by the *town*, in order to open the *port*, the worthy tradesmen began to be very uneasy, and thought it proper, that they, who were like to be such great sufferers, should have a meeting by themselves, and consult what was proper to be done to prevent their *ruin*; they accordingly assembled at *Faneuil hall* to the number of two or three hundred, and many if not most of them went with a

resolution

resolution
be paid
princip
that th
and to
was th
gave t
should
be rivi
well
prude
was c
Th
disper
hand
sent t
callin
was i
the p
first,
in th
mun
gym
peop
wor
to f
nera
that
titu
cou
wh
con
one
hav
mo

resolution to use their endeavors that the tea should be paid for ; but so artful and industrious were the *principal heads* of the opposition to government, that they placed themselves at the doors of the *hall* and told the tradesmen as they entered, that now was the time to save our *country*.—That if they gave their voice in favor of paying for the tea, we should be undone, and the chains of *slavery* would be rivitted upon us ! which so terrified many honest well meaning persons, that they thought it not prudent to act at all in the affair, and so nothing was concluded upon.

The next day the *committee of correspondence* dispersed among the people a most *wicked, diabolical* hand bill called a *league and covenant*, which was sent to every *town* and *district* in the *PROVINCE*, calling upon the inhabitants to sign it, which paper was introduced in many *towns* by the *minister* of the parish, who set them the example of signing first, and then called upon his parishioners to engage in the same *covenant*, and to sign it upon the communion table, and it is reported that a certain *clergyman* in the *county of Plymouth*, gravely told his people, that they who refused to sign it were not worthy to come to that *table*.—I do not pretend to say positively that this is a fact, though it is generally believed : But be that as it may, it is certain that many of the *dissenting clergy* have so far prostituted their *sacred office*, as to be leaders and encouragers of the people to sign this wicked covenant, whereby they have led many of their people to commit the *horrible crime of perjury* ; for not one of many hundred of those who have signed it, have paid any regard to it, and what makes it more surprising that they should have exerted themselves

selves upon that occasion is, that not one in *Boston* where this *covenant* was fabricated has signed it; and consequently every countryman who has, and has any dealings with the *Bostonians* must infallibly perjure himself.

We have now done with the *solemn league and covenant*, and shall proceed to the considerations of the proceedings of the *continental Congress*. In the month of September they assembled at *Philadelphia* with all the pomp and grandeur of Plenipotentiaries; when the expectations of the people in general were, that by their wise and prudent councils, respectful and dutiful petitions to his MAJESTY and to his *parliament*, a door would be open for the *supreme legislature of Great-Britain*, consistent with the honor and dignity of that *august assembly*, to have our grievances redressed, and that the first step that would have been taken for that purpose, would have been to have advised the *town of Boston* to pay for the *tea*. But alas how have we been disappointed! Those persons who have been the occasion of our political troubles in this *province*, were members of this *continental body*, and having already become *desperate* themselves had no other card to play, but to involve the whole *continent* in their *rebellion*.—No doubt vainly imagining, that although a single *town* or *province* may be reduced by the power of GREAT-BRITAIN; they would not venture an attack against the whole *continent*.—The Massachusetts delegates so far succeeded in their plan, that the first thing the *congress* did that was made public, was the adopting of the resolutions of the county of *Suffolk*, which were not short of high *treason* and *rebellion*, nothing healing or salutary could then be expected from such a *congress*,

gress, the only apology that could be made for their conduct was, that they came into this vote immediately after drinking thirty two bumpers of the *best madeira*, and it seems the next morning when their heads were cool, they were ashamed of what they had done ; but it was then too late for a reconsideration of the vote, a copy of it attested by the *president*, having been forwarded to *Boston* by our worthy citizen *Paul Revere*, who was dispatched from *Boston* as a *courier* with the *Suffolk resolves* ; however, to avoid making any such mistakes for the future, they prudently determined to do no business after dinner.

Their whole proceedings as they are made public, no doubt are in the hands of every gentleman who hath any taste for *political controversy* ; though by the way, they cautiously omitted inserting this extraordinary vote in the pamphlet they published, entitled, “ Extracts from the votes and proceedings of the American continental congress.”

As several gentlemen at *New-York*, have made very sensible remarks upon their proceedings, and have proved to demonstration if their association be strictly adhered to, we must be involved in one common ruin : For trade and commerce is the support of the *farmer* as well as the *merchant* and *shopkeeper* ; and the foundation of learning ; without which, in process of time, there will be no true rational *religion* amongst us ; and as their writings are dispersed through the *province*, it is needless for me fully and particularly to animadvert upon them : However, it may not be amiss to make a few cursory remarks upon their conduct, which, whether pertinent or not, is humbly submitted.

B

And

And here it is worthy of notice, they have reduced the number of those that were concerned in the destruction of the *tea*, to thirty or forty, when it is very evident that TWO THOUSAND at least, were employed either directly in destroying the *tea*, or in keeping a centry at the entrance of the wharf where the ships lay, and at those wharves contiguous thereto : They then exclaim against the severity of the *port bill*, in punishing *thirty thousand*, as they say, for the offence of a few individuals. It is possible that most of the *congress* might not have been acquainted with the truth of the fact, and depending upon the veracity of the *Massachusetts delegates*, put full faith and confidence in their representations ; be that as it may, it is manifest that those members who went from *Boston*, knew better ; they certainly gave their voice in favor of a *notorious fallhood*, knowing it to be such. What apology then can be made for gentlemen of their EXALTED CHARACTER, that for the sake of carrying a point, could be guilty of such a crime, that every one who is not entirely lost to all sense of honor would be ashamed of ? Possibly these *casuistical* and *patriotic*, not to say *jesuitical* gentlemen, to ease their consciences, may think it no harm to *lie* for the good of their *country* ; and as it is said they have often enthusiastically declared, they would willingly sacrifice their lives and fortunes in defence of their civil rights and liberties ; and as they have little or no property to lose, in order to transmit their names with honor to posterity, they are willing to part with their *souls* in lieu of it ; but to adopt the language of *inspiration* with a very little variance, " What will it profit a man tho' he recovers all his civil rights and privileges, if he loses his own soul ? "

We

We shall now proceed to make a few strictures upon the tenth article of their association, which runs thus, " In case any merchant or trader, or other person, shall import any goods or merchandize after the first day of December, and before the first day of February next, the same ought forthwith at the election of the owner, to be either reshipped or delivered up to the committee of the county or town wherein they shall be imported, to be stored at the risk of the importer, until the non-importation agreement shall cease; or be sold under the direction of the committee aforesaid; and in the last mentioned case, the owner, or owners of such goods, shall be reimbursed (out of the sales) the first cost and charges; the profit, if any, be to be applied towards relieving and employing such poor inhabitants of the town of Boston, as are immediate sufferers by the Boston port bill; and a particular account of all goods so returned, stored or sold, to be inserted in the public papers: And if any goods or merchandize, shall be imported after the said first day of February, the same ought forthwith to be sent back, without breaking any of the packages thereof." This association was agreed upon the 20th of October, 1774.

Although there is nothing compulsive in this article, yet being compared with some other of their articles and resolves, it is manifest they designed it should have the operation of *law*; and it hath accordingly had that effect in regard to several vessels that have arrived at Salem and Plymouth, since the first day of December, the owners of which cargoes, have had their goods piratically taken from them and exposed to public sale, agreeable to the forementioned article.

Now admitting for argument sake, this *congress* were constitutionally the *supreme legislature* of the whole *continent*, could any thing be more unjust, tyrannical, arbitrary and oppressive? Can the edicts of the most despotic princes under heaven exceed it? Pray what offence against the laws of God or man, or even against the sense of the *continent*, have these merchants been guilty of, who have ordered goods to be shipped them from *Great-Britain*, Ireland or the West-Indies, and which could not possibly arrive here 'till after the first day of December, that they should be subjected to such severe penalties? Was it in their power from the twentieth of October to give counter orders to their *correspondents*, if they were so disposed, that should reach them in time to prevent their shipping of the goods? By no means; they knew it to be impossible at least for the *province of the Massachusetts*, who were not acquainted with the determination of the *congress* 'till the beginning of November. It is therefore no breach of charity to suppose, that the motive that induced them to pass such a *wicked edict*, was, that the profits arising thereby should be applied for the relief and employ of the poor inhabitants of the *town of Boston*, who are immediate sufferers by the *Boston port bill*.

Charity to the proper objects of it, is no doubt a *christian duty*, and a sacrifice acceptable to the SUPREME BEING; and God forbid that any thing should be said to discourage it; but it is an old saying, that we ought not to rob *Peter* to pay *Paul*; nay, *charity* to the poor, when what we bestow on them is the fruit of *theft* and *robbery*, is so far from being a *sacrifice* with which God will be well pleased; that it will be a *stench* in his nostrils. It is
no

no better than if a number of VILLAINS should enter into an *association*, to go upon the highway, and rob every gentleman they should meet, with a *pious* design to relieve their poor brethren who were suffering in *Newgate* for their crimes; or even for the relief of those, who by the providence of God were reduced to a state of poverty; in neither of which cases would they be entitled to the reward which is promised the *charitable christian*.

Besides, these poor inhabitants among whom this *charity* is distributed, are not all of them necessarily sufferers by the *port-bill*: Many of them might have been employed by the army in their respective occupations, whereby they would have accumulated more wealth than they could possibly have earned, if that *act* called the *Boston port-bill* had never been passed, but they were prevented by the *troublers* of *our Israel*, lest a stop should be put to the charitable donations from the neighbouring *colonies*.— Now the real unavoidable sufferers by this *act* are the merchants and traders, and consequently they are the persons who have an equitable claim at least to a part of the donations; but instead of considering them in that light, the *wisdom* of the *congress* hath laid a tax upon them, to support some of those who by their industry in their several callings may get as comfortable a support, as if this *act* had never passed. “Tell it not in Gath!”

The *continental congress* have recommended it to the respective *provincial congresses*, to make such further orders, as may by them be thought necessary to carry their orders into execution, which naturally leads me to take some notice of the proceedings of the provincial congress of the Massachusetts-Bay held at Cambridge in November, 1774.

But

But before we proceed to make any remarks upon their *conduct* it will not be improper to observe, that the *continental congress* as they had no business with any *acts of parliament*, but those that affected all the *colonies*, consequently the *Boston port-bill*, and the act for altering the charter and government of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and the *Quebec bill*, ought to have been out of the question any further than as the *port-bill* being manifestly for the punishment of a certain offence that was charged upon the town of *Boston*, they ought to have advised them to pay the money for the *tea*, so that all the *colonies* might stand upon an equal footing in their humble application to his MAJESTY and to the *parliament of Great-Britain*, to repeal the *act* for laying a duty upon the importation of *tea*, in which all the *colonies* are equally concerned. But for them to pretend that the *port-bill* affected all the *colonies* and therefore it was their duty to interest themselves in it, is perfectly ridiculous.—The respective inhabitants of each *colony* may with as much propriety object to a law made by their own assemblies for punishing *theft* with *death*, and even endeavor to rescue a delinquent, because possibly it may hereafter be their own turn to suffer for the like offence.—But the folly and ingratitude of the *congress*, it is humbly apprehended will appear in a striking point of light by the following similitude.

Let us suppose a wealthy *farmer* had acquired a considerable real estate, and was the *father* of ten sons; and that these children were very serviceable to him in their minority, in clearing his lands and in improving his *farms*; at the same time he exercised a tender and paternal care and affection for them, and assisted them in setting out in life; and
although

althou
subfist
dent u
who h
indulg
every
shoul
depe
mann
him,
cupie
lious
And
time
state
pro
sup
sub
and
for
reje
con
to
vis
fat
an
th
Sh
pe
us
at
to
fi
a
v

although they had got the means of a comfortable subsistence, they were still in a great measure dependent upon their aged *father*.—And that *one* of them who had in a peculiar manner, been nourished by his *indulgent parent*, impatient of those restraints that every *parent* hath a right to lay upon his children, should unnaturally rebel against him, throw off his dependence, and treat him in an insulting, injurious manner, so as to provoke the *father* to disinherit him, and turn him off from his farm, which he occupied by sufferance, and by that means this *rebellious son*, was reduced to great want and indigence. And suppose that his *indulgent father* at the same time willing to receive him to his favor, and reinstate him in the possession of his farm, by the improvement of which, he could get a comfortable support, upon the easy conditions of his humble submission, and recognizing his proper authority, and his promising to obey him in *all things lawful for the future*.—Suppose this undutiful *son* should reject these lenient proposals, with indignation, and continuing in his rebellious conduct, should apply to his *brethren* for support, and they, instead of advising their unhappy *brother* to go to his offended father and say “Father I have sinned against heaven and in thy sight and am no more worthy to be called thy son, treat me as one of thy hired servants.” Should for answer, say, our father is grown old and peevish, and become a *tyrant*, and designs to make us all slaves; when he has subdued you, he will attack us; wherefore we advise you by no means to submit to his arbitrary injunctions, and we will support you; and when he finds there is a *union* amongst us to oppose his tyrannical measures, he will restore you to his favor, for we know he has a peculiar

peculiar affection for you. But admitting the old gentleman should think his honor was too much concerned to give up this unhappy controversy without a humble submission on your part, and should persist in oppressing you, we will enter into an *association* among ourselves, and endeavor to engage all our friends not to have any commercial dealings with him, or with those who shall countenance him; we will not purchase any of the produce of his *farm*, we will discourage his hired servants from working for him, or any ways assisting him, in ploughing, sowing and reaping; in which case, his *farms*, will be rendered in a manner useless to him; neither will we supply his friends and those who adhere to him, with the necessaries of life; we will convince the old *tyrant* that we can live without him, as well as he can without us; and altho' we acknowledge that he hath formerly been very kind to us, yet we have fully ballanced all his favors by the profits that he has accumulated by our labor; and further, *dear brother*, that you may not suffer in your GLORIOUS OPPOSITION to him, we will seize upon the produce of his farm, if he should send any to market after the first of December, and apply a certain proportion of it for your support. Now I ask you, if *children* could act such an unnatural, unfilial part, what must the sober, judicious part of mankind think of them? What must the *aged compassionate father* think of them? And how must he treat them? Not surely as *sons* but as *bastards*. And what do you think, if these rebellious children should have such interest with some of the *ministers* of the *gospel*, that they in their public addresses to *heaven*, gave thanks that God had put it into the hearts of these *children* to contribute for the

the

the relief of their *rebellious brother*, when part of the support thus afforded him, was what they got by *robbery*. The application of this similitude is very obvious and needs no comment.

Having finished the remarks which I originally designed to make upon the proceedings of the *grand continental congress*; by some sycophants and flatterers called the *collected wisdom of the colonies*.— I shall proceed very briefly to animadvert upon some of the votes or resolutions of the *provincial congress* held at *Cambridge* in November last; and here it is proper to observe that two gentlemen of the *continental* were also members of the *provincial congress*, and by their influence no doubt obtained a vote to confirm and adopt the proceedings of the *grand congress*, and as though what they had done was not sufficient to ruin the trade of the *town* and *country*, in order to compleat our *misery*, this new fangled *congress* unconstitutionally assembled, have in addition thereto, recommended, that in the month of *October*, 1775, the committees of inspection for the several *towns* in the *province*, should repair to the several stores and shops, and take an invoice of the goods they shall then have by them, and strictly forbid their exposing any of them for sale, and if the respective owners of such goods shall refuse to comply with their demands, they are directed to take them into their possession, and store them at the risque of the owners until the *acts* they complain of are repealed; and the inhabitants of the *towns* where such goods are found, are advised to assist them in this high handed *robbery*.

Now, can it be supposed, that any set of men professing christianity, or even common honesty, can possibly be guilty of a greater offence!—Nay

is the crime of a *highwayman*, who robs the rich traveller of a few guineas, to be compared with this for it's iniquity ? By no means ; the latter is not so great an offender as the former ; for in one case the gentleman only loses a few guineas (as it may be) he can very well spare ; but in the other, many a *family* may be deprived of the means of support, and in time be reduced to the most abject state of *poverty*. The *congress* not content with this *wicked resolve* have *impiously* recommended it to the *ministers* of the *gospel*, who, by their sacred office, are not only to preach the *doctrine* of *grace* but to inculcate the duties of morality, in which a due submission to government is included ; I say, have advised them by their circular letters, to use their endeavors, that their tyrannical and wicked directions be put in execution. But as the weapons of those *reverend gentlemen* are not, or ought not to be carnal, but *spiritual*, it is to be hoped they will not make use of the former, but confine themselves to the latter. And certainly it would be more for the reputation of the *clergy*, and the real interest of *religion*, if instead of preaching politicks, as two many of them do, they would cry aloud and not spare, but lift up their voice like a trumpet, and shew unto *Boston* their transgressions, and unto the whole *province* their sins, and plainly tell them, that it is "their iniquities, that have seperated between them and their God," and have occasioned the loss of what they esteem their *rights* and *privileges* ; and that sincere repentance and reformation are the only means to have them restored to us. But while we continue in a state of *rebellion*, "despising *government*," "speaking evil of *dignities*," "and reviling the *ruler* of *God's* people"—encouraging

raging mobs, riots and tumults—destroying the substance of our fellow creatures; insulting and abusing their persons in such a manner as a BARBARIAN would be ashamed of; and robbing them of their private property, to enable us to do acts of *charity* to the poor; it will be of no avail to us to observe days of prayer and humiliation.—With such sacrifices God will not be well pleased.—But will say to us as he did by his *prophet Isaiah* to his people of *old*, “When you spread forth your hands I will hide mine eyes from you; yea, when you make many prayers I will not hear; your hands are full of blood; you have made lies your refuge, and under falsehoods you have hid yourselves.”

I have now finished what I first proposed, but cannot conclude without a word or two of advice to my deluded *countrymen*, who have been drawn into rebellion, by the lies and misrepresentations, of artful, wicked, and desperate men.—I would charitably hope, that when you first enlisted under their banners, you designed no more than a rational peaceable defending your rights and privileges, and had you been early told, that you should ever have gone such lengths as you have, no doubt you would have adopted the language of Hazael and answered, “Is thy servant a dog, that he can do such things;” and as many of you have forfeited your lives by your treasonable practices, you may possibly think that there will be no mercy for you, and that therefore you had as good persist in your *rebellion* as not, but let me tell you this is a suggestion of the *devil*. Our most GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN is far from being *vindictive*: *Punishment* is his *strange work*; and he never inflicts any, but when the *honor* and *dignity* of *government*, and the real good of his subjects require

quire it. And although the *ringleaders* of this *horrible rebellion*, may meet with the punishment that their crimes do justly deserve, yet those who have been deluded by them; if they give evident proof of their repentance and submission to *government*, and that speedily, may have some reason to hope, that from his MAJESTY'S wonted clemency they shall obtain forgiveness.

Let me therefore entreat you if you have any love for *your country*, any affection for your *wives* and *children*, and regard for your own safety and happiness; to lay down the *weapons* of your *rebellion*; and submit yourselves to the wise, lenient and constitutional government we have the happiness to be under; for we have abundant evidence of his MAJESTY'S tender and impartial regard for the rights of his subjects; and altho' he will not suffer those *who deny his authority*, and the authority of his parliament to escape with *impunity*, yet he will most graciously approve of every constitutional measure, that may contribute to the peace, happiness and prosperity of his *colony* of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and which may have the effect to shew to the *world*, that he has no wish beyond that of reigning in the hearts and affections of his people.



t
f
y
y
d
d
to
is
ne
er
of
ll
a-
fs
y,
ld,
he